



First NC Marathon Event Hosts over 1,400 Runners in 2008

Greensboro, NC—Over 1,400 runners registered to participate in the first-ever NC Marathon, sponsored by UnitedHealthcare to benefit Foster Friends of North Carolina. The Saturday, May 3, 2008, event featured a Marathon, Half Marathon, 5 K and Children's Race in downtown Greensboro.

The first place Marathon winner was Aaron Lintz with a time of 2:52:37. "It was overall a great race that I want to run again," commented a Wilkesboro, NC Running Club member. Runners from cities across North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Virginia, Maryland, Washington, DC, New York, Illinois, Indiana, Pennsylvania, Ohio, California, Wisconsin, Arizona, Nevada, Massachusetts, Tennessee, Texas, Minnesota, and Michigan and as far away as Tokyo, and United Kingdom were present.

The Marathon's 26.2 mile course started and finished in downtown Greensboro and included some of the area's most scenic and historic neighborhoods. The races combined a celebration of Greensboro's Bicentennial and promotion of a healthy community to support children experiencing foster care so they can attend summer camps, participate in team sports, and buy yearbooks and school pictures—benefits not provided by the state. Proceeds also helped to support FFNC Mentoring Program. The event's estimated economic impact to Guilford County was about \$423,550.

FFNC is grateful to title sponsor UnitedHealthcare and Presenting Sponsor VF Jeanswear and Blue Bell Foundation for their financial, organizational and volunteer support that made this first time racing event a huge success. We are also thankful to the more than 50 other sponsors who provided funding and supplies, as well as the tremendous community support. Over 500 volunteers & civic organizations assisted with the organization and execution of the races, including manning water stations, Cheer Zones and the finish line, and providing roadside security.

Next year's event will take place Saturday, May 2, and will feature a Marathon, Half Marathon, and 2 Mile Walk/Run races.

